DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Timothy N. Trop, Reg. No. 28,994 on 11 August 2010.

1. Replace claims 1 and 11 with the following (shown ***marked up*** here, followed by *clean version*):

1. A method comprising: receiving a password through a graphical user interface generated by a graphics controller <u>associated with a first processor</u> before an operating system <u>associated with a second processor, not an integral part of the first processor,</u> boots; after receiving said password, comparing said password to stored information using the graphics controller; and booting the operating system <u>associated with a second processor</u> ~~using a processor different than said graphics controller~~ after comparing said password to stored information using said graphics controller.

11.   A computer readable non-transitory medium storing instructions that enables a graphics

controller associated with a first processor to: receive a password through a graphical user

interface generated by the graphics controller before an operating system associated with a

second processor boots; after receipt of said password, but before the operating system is booted,

compare said password to stored information using the graphics controller; and turn over control

to ~~another~~ the second processor to boot the operating system.

clean version:

1.   A method comprising: receiving a password through a graphical user interface generated

by a graphics controller associated with a first processor before an operating system associated

with a second processor, not an integral part of the first processor, boots; after receiving said

password, comparing said password to stored information using the graphics controller; and

booting the operating system associated with a second processor after comparing said password

to stored information using said graphics controller.

11.   A computer readable non-transitory medium storing instructions that enables a graphics

controller associated with a first processor to: receive a password through a graphical user

interface generated by the graphics controller before an operating system associated with a

second processor boots; after receipt of said password, but before the operating system is booted,

compare said password to stored information using the graphics controller; and turn over control

to the second processor to boot the operating system.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

2.   Claims 1, 3-11 and 13-20 are allowed over prior art.

3.   This action is in reply to applicant's correspondence of 16 June 2010.

4.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable

claimed subject matter.

5.   As per claims 1 and 11 generally, prior art of record Skelton et al, U.S. Patent No.

6,292,692 B1 ("Skelton"), Iggulden, U.S. Patent No. 6,415,023 B2 ("Iggulden"), Clough et al,

U.S. Patent No. 5,379,057 ("Clough"), Aluzzo et al U.S. Patent Publication US 2002/0073306

A1 ("Aluzzo"), Ultimaco Safeware AG, 'SafeGuard Easy', Ultimaco Safeware AG, 08/2000, entire document,

http://web.archive.org/web/20000301132302/www.utimaco.de/english/index1.htm ('Ultimaco'), fails to

anticipate, disclose, teach or suggest alone, or in combination, other than via hindsight, at the

time of the invention, the features as discussed and remarked upon in the response of 16 June

2010 to office action of 09 April 2010.

          Specifically, (as per claim 1, for example) prior art dealing with graphics controller

oriented processor based computer products, whereas an associated operating system booting up

sequence - insofar as user interaction to initiate the booting process is concerned (i.e., the Apple

Computer, Inc., Newton MessagePad 110 touch screen (i.e., keyboard-less GUI) PDA, whereas

the processor utilized for the graphic display/touch-screen and general functionality/user

authentication, is the ***only** processor involved* in the operating system associated boot-up process:

Apple Computer, Inc., 'Newton MessagePad 110' [product spec sheet], 1994 Apple Computer, Inc., entire document,

http://www.svas.com/computers/mp110.pdf), is generally known per se. Nowhere in the prior art is

found collectively the *italicized* claim elements (i.e., the use of a separate ('*first processor ...* ')

processor – the graphics controller processor associated GUI, to encompass the user

authentication (' *receiving a password* ...*[GUI] generated... a **first** processor... **comparing*** said

password ... ') associated with the booting up of the operating system associated with a second ('

second *processor* ... **not an integral part of the first processor** ') processor), <u>***at the time*** of</u> the

invention; serving to patently distinguish the invention from said prior art;

"1.   A method comprising:

    receiving a password

        through a *graphical user interface*

            generated by a graphics controller

                *associated with a **first** processor*

        before an operating system

            associated with a second processor,

                not an integral part of the first processor,

        boots;

    after receiving said password,

        comparing said password to

            stored information **using**

                the graphic controller; and

      booting the operating system

          associated with a second processor

          after comparing said password

to stored information

using said graphics controller.".

6.   Dependent claims 3-10 and 13-20 are allowable by virtue of their dependencies.

Conclusion

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from examiner

should be directed to Ronald Baum, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3861, and whose

unofficial Fax number is (571) 273-3861 and unofficial email is Ronald.baum@uspto.gov. The

examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Edan Orgad, can be reached at (571) 272-7884. The Fax number for the organization

where this application is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. For more information for

unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the

PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private

PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

                                        Ronald Baum

                                        Patent Examiner

                                        /R. B./

                                        Examiner, Art Unit 2439

                                        /Christian LaForgia/

                                        Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2439